



Update

News from West Valley City Hall

November 2010

City Council Members:

- Mike Winder, Mayor
- Corey Rushton, At-Large
- Don Christensen, At-Large
- Carolynn Burt, District 1
- Steve Buhler, District 2
- Russ Brooks, District 3
- Steve Vincent, District 4

Public Meetings

City Council – first four Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Planning Commission – second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

City Phone Numbers:

Main Number..... 801-966-3600
City Manager 801-963-3220
Police Department. 801-963-3386
Police Dispatch..... 801-840-4000
Fire Department..... 801-963-3336
Emergency 911
Family Fitness Center
801-955-4000
Garbage Questions 801-955-3720
Storm Water Utility.. 801-963-3448
Housing Authority . 801-963-3320
Parks and Rec..... 801-955-4000
Harman Home 801-965-5822
Stonebridge Golf Course.....
801-957-9000
West Ridge Golf Course
801-965-5800
Graffiti Hot Line 801-963-3467
Animal Services..... 801-965-5800
Victims Services 801-963-3223
Ordinance Compliance
801-963-3289
Utah Cultural Celebration Center
801-965-5100

Website:

www.wvc-ut.gov

West Valley City Hall
3600 S. Constitution Blvd.
WVC, UT 84119

City Hall Hours:
Monday – Thursday
7 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Thanksgiving Season

A message from Councilmember Don Christensen

At this Thanksgiving season, let us think about the blessings that are ours because we have chosen to live in West Valley City.

First: We are being served by incredible employees of the city. In this time of economic crunch our employees have not had salary increases in three years, yet they remain loyal to the city, not looking elsewhere for employment nor cutting back in work output.

Second: We enjoy round the clock protection by the finest police and fire departments. City crime rates have dropped, our fire department response times are some of the lowest in the state, and our recently added ambulance service is among the best in the area.

Third: Community efforts to keep our city clean and beautiful and create neighborhoods we are proud to call home. Recycling blue bins, monthly bulky waste pick-up, and neighborhood clean-up, set our city apart from the surrounding communities. Volunteers help those who cannot take care

of their property, do graffiti removal, neighborhood clean-up, plus put out and take back trash cans, shovel snow and take care of their neighbors.

Fifth: Our roads, sidewalks and physical facilities are carefully designed and cared for by conscientious workers within the abilities of the city budget. WVC is operated by fiscally responsible employees who do all that is within their power to make each dollar spent get a full 100 cents worth of value.

Sixth through 145000: There are so many things to make us thankful we live in West Valley we cannot name them all. Each citizen's list would be different than his neighbors', child's, or co-workers'. Mine included the diversity of culture, education, facilities, activities, businesses, and individuals within our city boundaries.

MOST OF ALL: I AM THANKFUL FOR YOU, MY NEIGHBORS! West Valley City is what it is because of you and what you do. Thank you for taking care of each other and our city.

Call for Participation in City Image Survey

The City is continuing development plans for City Center, which is the area around the City Hall and the new TRAX station just west of Valley Fair Mall at 3500 South and Constitution Boulevard (2700 West).

We encourage you to participate in the planning process by completing a short online survey about the City and the City Center development. City Center has the potential to be a community gathering place, a landmark and a source of community pride. Your responses will help us ensure that the image developed for City Center accurately represents the values of our citizens and the qualities that make West Valley City a great place to live.

To participate, visit www.wvc-ut.gov, click on the City Center Survey link and follow the on-screen instructions. The survey will be available until 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24.

If you have questions about the development plans, please contact the Economic Development Department at (801) 966-3605.

Cold weather means carbon monoxide

by Ed Domian, Chief Building Official

Colder temperatures mean more carbon monoxide deaths. While carbon monoxide poisoning can occur anytime of the year, the colder temperatures increase that risk. Few of us ever stop to think about the inherent hazards in those gas appliances located in our homes. Furnaces and water heaters need a number of simple things to remain safe. We neglect to have the furnaces serviced for years and seldom change the furnace filter. We build closets around these gas appliances without a building permit and forget to provide a source of fresh outside air absolutely necessary for complete fuel combustion; or worse we plug the combustion air ducts to stop that cold air from entering our basement. We use the furnace closet to store odds and ends, some in direct contact with these gas-burning appliances. That leaves no room around these appliances for equipment cooling and provides direct contact between combustible products and the hot furnace or water heater. Speaking of storage, it doesn't take much of a bump from the long handle of a mop or broom to dislodge the critical connection between the fuel gas vent pipe and the furnace or water heater flue outlet, or between connecting pieces of gas vent piping. That disconnection will release all those carbon monoxide fumes into your home. Recently carbon monoxide detectors have become mandatory in all new homes constructed in the State of Utah. But homes constructed prior to 2004 were not required to have these de-

tectors. C/O detectors have come down in price; battery-operated models are now available for about \$25.00; every home should have at least one.

Then there is my personal phobia: the idling vehicle in the garage. Our Building Inspection Division researched this problem for years and found an idling car in a garage, even with the garage door partially open, will make a person unconscious in seconds and kill them in minutes. This accident has taken the lives of the very young and the very old; the very rich and the very poor; single people and whole families; the uneducated and the very educated. Few deaths are as senseless and as preventable as the C/O death in a garage but they happen every year in Utah and across this country. Teenagers like to pull their car in the garage to clean it up and always want to listen to the radio while they work; so they habitually start the car. Then there is the back yard mechanic who likes to tinker with his engine late at night in the garage; in colder weather they often leave the garage door closed while they work. People do not realize how little time it takes to be overcome by the fumes from an idling automobile inside a garage. And if you know all this, my question to you is "does your teenager know?" Good topic for discussion at the dinner table tonight. We have refrigerator magnets available in our Building Inspection Division, which we try and put in every new home, to remind the new occupants to never idle a car in a garage. Stop by and get a free one on us.

Meet Copper!



These plush blood hound toys are named after the real West Valley City Police Department K-9 Unit's Copper. Copper is the official mascot of the 2010 West Valley City Giving Tree and he will be making appearances at Valley Fair Mall to help promote this years West Valley City Giving Tree.

Friday, November 26
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
and

Saturday, December 11
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

A limited number of these plush toys are also for sale at the Valley Fair Mall Customer Service Center. All proceeds benefit the West Valley City Giving Tree, a program that benefits families in need during the Holidays.

WEST VALLEY CITY
giving tree



Yard Clippings

Make your yard prime,
 Grass - mow it one more time,
 Weeds appear - Attack!
 Plants die - prune them back,
 Leaves blow - Rake!
 Fertilize for your grass's sake,
 Plant bulbs for spring blooms,
 All done as winter looms.

Happy Thanksgiving!

These tips brought to you by
 West Valley City Clean and Beautiful Committee



WVC
Clean & Beautiful





Utah Cultural Celebration Center

HANDCRAFTED
ARTS
MUSIC
& DANCE
FOOD
HOLIDAY
TREE
EXHIBIT





**WINTER
MARKET**

Artisan Treasures from Utah and Around the World

Utah Cultural Celebration Center

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 4
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

CulturalCelebration.org
1355 West 3100 South 801-965-5100



PEOPLE'S MARKET
local goods responsibly diversity



Protecting Your Property

by Officer Jesse Buchanan

In my career as a police officer, I frequently have the opportunity to give presentations to children regarding safety. I often ask the children what it is that they think a police officer does. Without fail, children will say that a police officer's job mainly consists of fiery car chases and wild shootouts. While this is a component of police work, it is a very small part compared to the less exciting yet much more common things police officers do. Largely due to television, movies and other media, children have been conditioned to focus only

on the glamorous aspect of law enforcement. They miss the big picture because they are only looking at what is the most appealing. Similarly, when I ask adults about their thoughts regarding crime, they usually focus on the larger more dangerous crimes. While things like shootings, stab-bings and assaults are all worthy of our attention, the chances of being a victim of a major crime in West Valley City are very low. A person is much more likely to be a victim of burglary or theft than a homicide.



Harman Senior Recreation Center Activities

4090 South 3600 West
 801-965-5822

The Harman Senior Recreation Center is a recreation and activity center for active seniors, offering a variety of fun and exciting classes, outings, and adventures. The Harman Center also offers a variety of informational seminars specifically for seniors.

November

- 17 New Balance Class #4, 9:30 a.m.
- 18 Ice Cream (by Beehive Homes), 10:30 a.m.
- 18 Granger High Bingo, 11 a.m.
- 19 Thanksgiving Dinner, (prior registration required)
- 22 Zumba Gold, 10:45 a.m.
- 24 New Balance Class #5
- 25 CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY
- 26 CLOSED THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
- 29 Zumba Gold, 10:45 a.m.
- 30 Skip Bo Tournament, 11 a.m.

For a complete calendar, visit
www.wvc-ut.gov/harman.

Weekly Activities

- Scrapbooking Class** – Mondays, 1 p.m.
- Chess Club** – Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m.
- Line Dancing** – Mondays, 12:30 p.m.
- Ceramics** – Thursdays, 10 a.m.
- Railroad Club** – Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 a.m.
- Tai Chi** – Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m., FREE
- Bingo** – Fridays, 10:15 a.m.
- Choir** – Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m.
- Drama Class** – Wednesdays, 1 p.m.
- Billiards and Cards** – Daily

For example, in a random 15 day period in October, West Valley reported 54 vehicle burglaries. During the same reporting period, there was only one robbery. We go to great lengths to ensure the safety and protection of ourselves and our loved ones but we often neglect to adequately protect our property with the same vigilance. A citizen puts three deadbolts on the front door to keep intruders out (not a bad thing) but then leaves his garage door wide open.

In a 2004 article for the Department of Justice entitled Burglary of Single Family Houses, author Deborah Lamm Weisel addresses this topic. Weisel points out that home burglary rates are highest in the month of August and lowest in the month of February. Approximately 60 percent of residential burglaries occur in the daytime when the house is unoccupied. This is generally attributed to houses being left vacant for much of the day. Thus, burglaries are often disproportionately concentrated on weekdays. Weisel offers some insight as to which houses are at a higher risk to be a victim of a residential burglary:

- Houses vacant for extended periods
- Houses routinely vacant during the day
- Houses of new residents (Residents do not have well established neighborhood social networks)
- Houses without dogs
- Houses with a lot of cover (dense trees/shrubs, privacy fences, obscured front door)
- Houses with poor lighting
- Houses whose residents are careless about security (In a study, one third of the burglarized houses had an unlocked door or window)

Besides what is stated above, Weisel did offer some ideas as to how to minimize your chances of becoming a victim. She suggests creating the appearance of somebody being home during the day. This can be accomplished in several ways: Interior home lights being left on or turned on intermittently with a timer; You may leave a television or stereo or



Calendar November

- 18 **Trees of Diversity Exhibit** (through December 30)
Utah Cultural Celebration Center
- 19 **Utah Grizzlies vs. Alaska Aces**
Maverik Center, 7 p.m.
- 20 **Utah Grizzlies vs. Alaska Aces**
Maverik Center, 7 p.m.
- 26 **Radio City Christmas Spectacular**
Maverik Center, 4PM and 7 p.m. start times
- 27 **Radio City Christmas Spectacular**
Maverik Center, 1PM, 4 p.m., and 7 p.m. start times
- 28 **Radio City Christmas Spectacular**
Maverik Center, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. start times
- 29 **Radio City Christmas Spectacular**
Maverik Center, 7 p.m.

December

- 1 **Trees of Diversity Exhibit** (through December 30)
Utah Cultural Celebration Center
- 1 **Milk with the Mayor**
Mayor's Office, West Valley City Hall, 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- 2 **Utah Grizzlies vs. Las Vegas Wranglers**
Maverik Center, 7 p.m.
- 3 **Utah Grizzlies vs. Ontario Reign**
Maverik Center, 7 p.m.
- 4 **Winter Market**
Utah Cultural Celebration Center, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- 4 **Utah Grizzlies vs. Ontario Reign**
Maverik Center, 7 p.m.
- 8 **The Nutcracker** (sponsored by the West Valley City Arts Council and Cultural Arts Board)
Hunter High School, 7 p.m.
- 9 **The Nutcracker** (sponsored by the West Valley City Arts Council and Cultural Arts Board)
Hunter High School, 7 p.m.
- 10 **Elmo's Green Thumb**
Maverik Center, 7 p.m.
- 11 **Elmo's Green Thumb**
Maverik Center, 10:30 a.m., 2 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. start times
- 12 **Elmo's Green Thumb**
Maverik Center, 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. start times
- 13 **Bonnie Harris Christmas Concert**
Utah Cultural Celebration Center, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
- 15 **Utah Grizzlies vs. Las Vegas Wranglers**
Maverik Center, 7 p.m.

Send comments, questions
 and story ideas to:
West Valley City Update Newsletter
 3600 South, Constitution Blvd.
 West Valley City, UT 84119
 or E-mail: info@wvc-ut.gov

other noise-making device on; Having or getting a dog for security purposes is a good idea-- burglars will often avoid big dogs because they are dangerous and little dogs because they are noisy; Leaving a vehicle in the driveway will make it seem like somebody is home; Having somebody pick up your newspaper and mail while you are on vacation. These are just a few of the several examples.

Criminals are everywhere looking for vulnerable houses and vehicles. It is what they do best. If you have read this article and realize that you are doing something wrong—make some changes. With a few proactive measures, you can drastically reduce your chances of becoming a victim.

For more information on these and other crime prevention techniques, visit the Department of Justice Website at www.justice.gov.